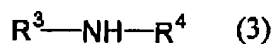
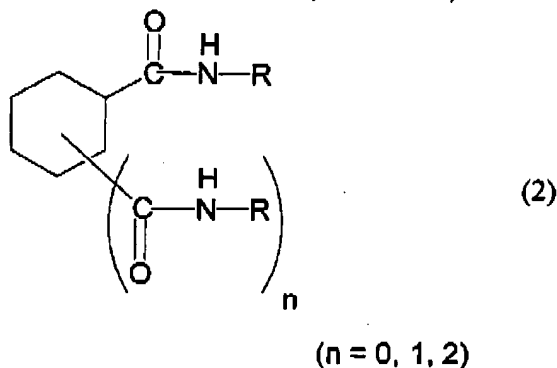
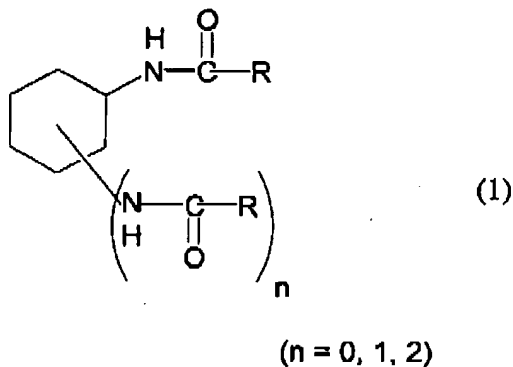


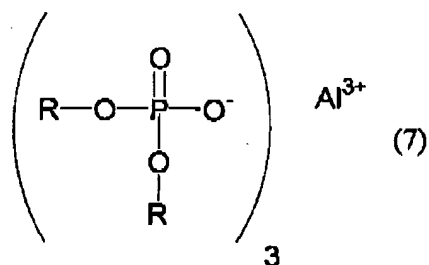
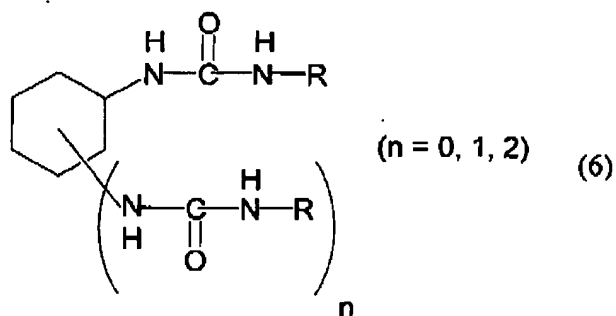
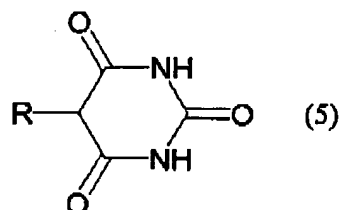
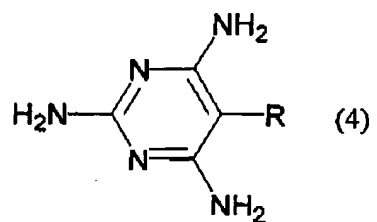
C. Amendment to the Claims

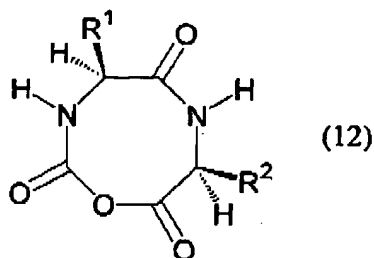
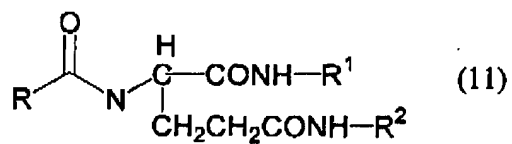
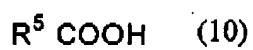
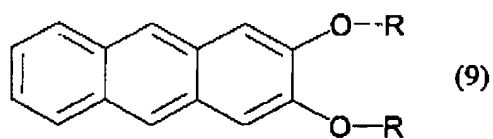
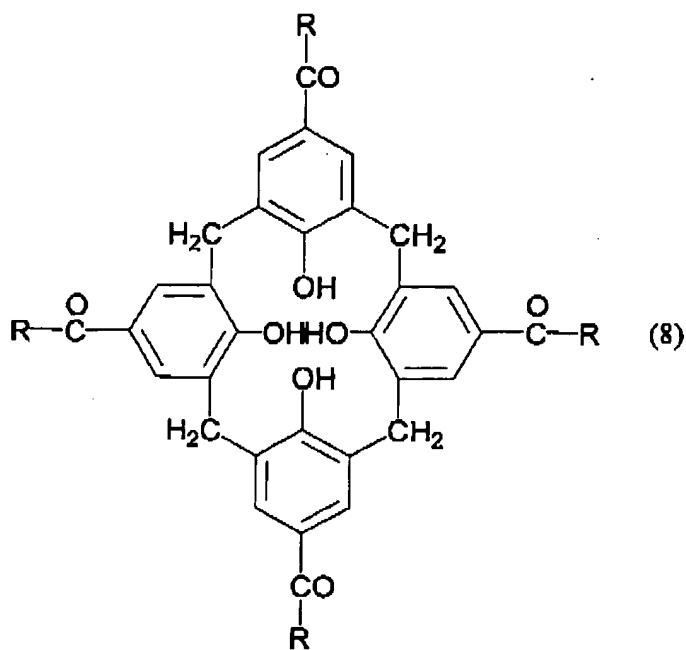
Please amend claim 1 as follows.

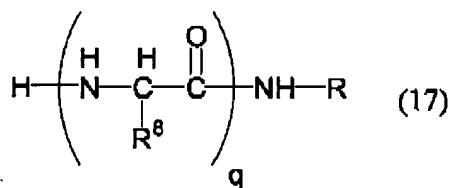
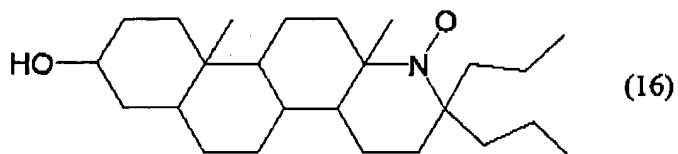
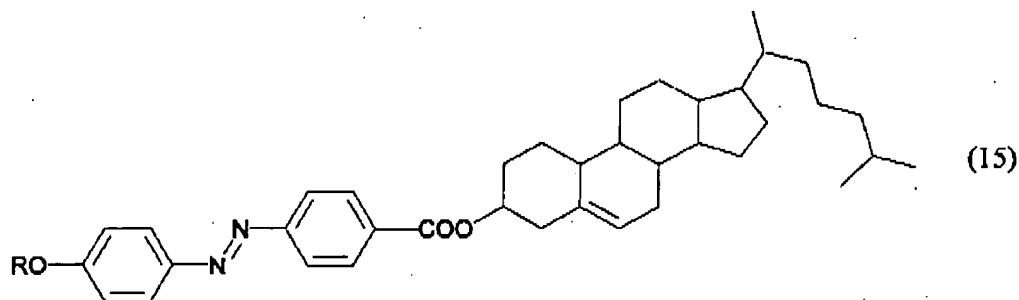
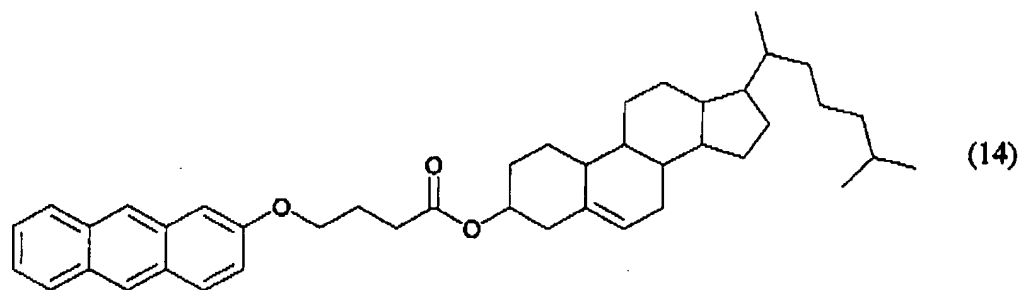
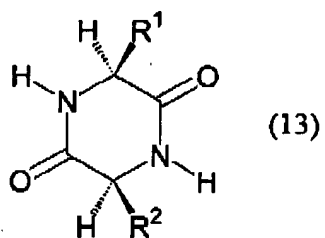
1. (Currently Amended) A gel electrolyte comprising:
a gelling agent forming a fibrous body; and
an ionically conductive material, which is liquid at working temperature and
which is held in the fibrous body by said gelling agent,

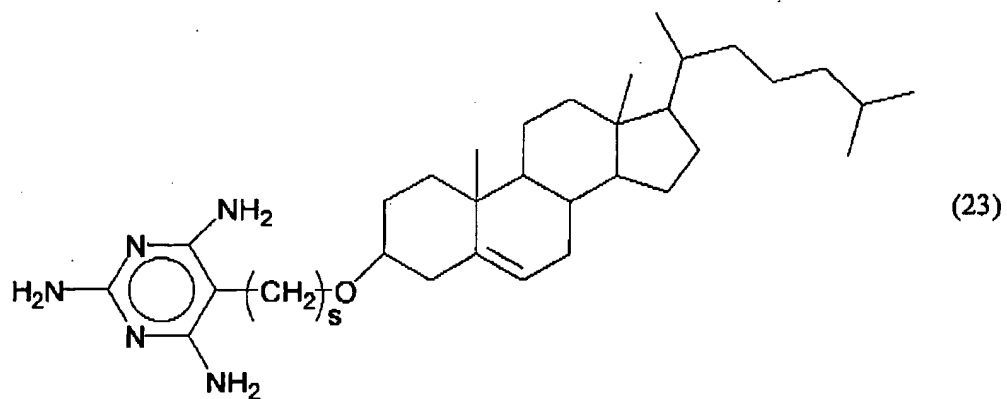
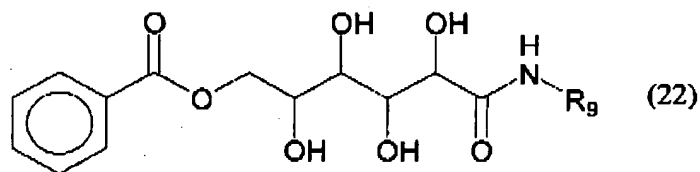
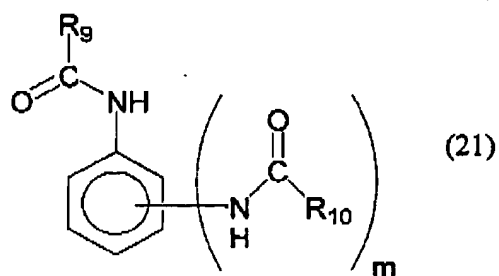
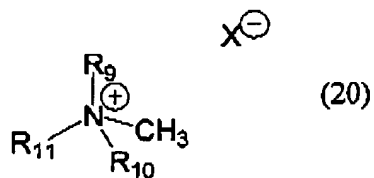
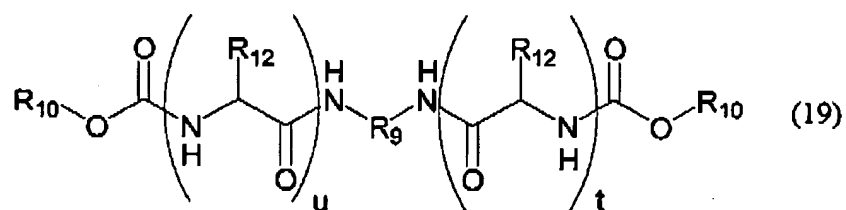
wherein said ionically conductive material is a salt that is liquid at room temperature, the fibrous body is associated ~~associates~~ via intermolecular bonding, and the gelling agent is selected from the group consisting of the compounds represented by the following formulae (1) to (17) and (19) to (26):

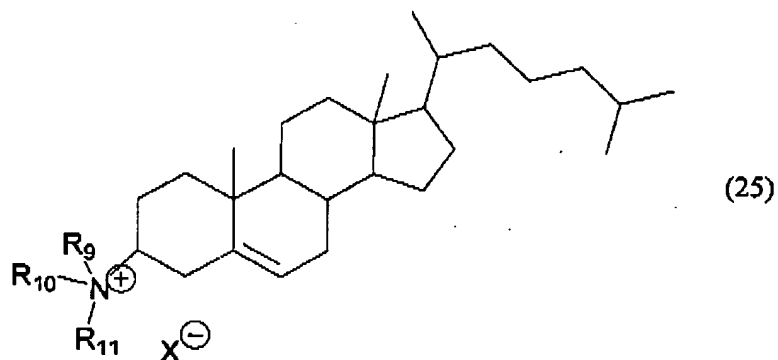
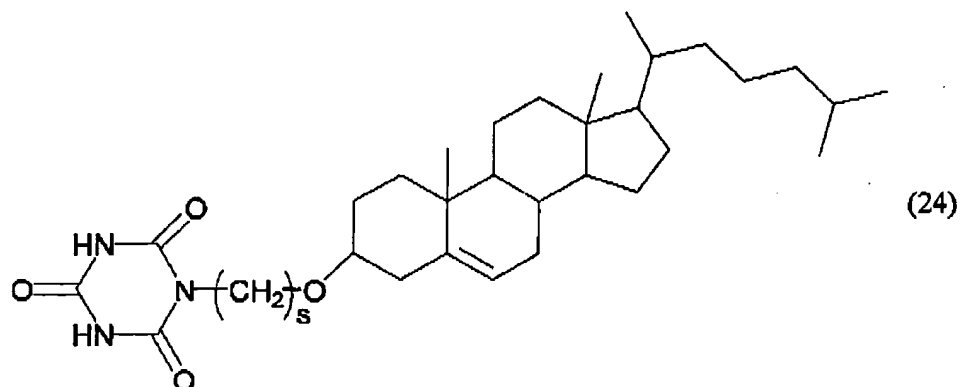




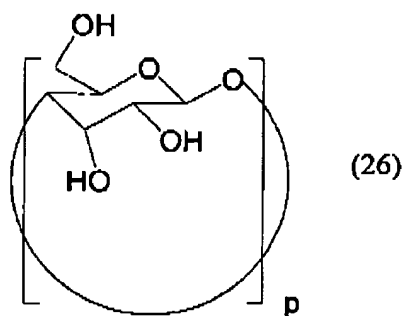








and



wherein, R, R₁ and R₂ are each hydrogen, or a straight-chain or branched aliphatic hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of 1 to 29; R₃ is an amino acid monomer or dimer with a protected amino group; R₄ is an aliphatic hydrocarbon having a carbon number of 1 to 29 or an aryl group; R₅ is a straight-chain aliphatic group

having a carbon number of 1 to 29 and being substituted with one hydroxyl group; R_8 is hydrogen, or an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of 1 to 5 or aryl group; n is 0, 1 or 2; q is an integer of 2 to 20; R_9 , R_{10} and R_{11} are each hydrogen, or a straight-chain or branched aliphatic hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of 1 to 29; R_{12} is a side chain of an amino acid, or an alkyl or aryl group; X is a halogen; p is an integer of 6 to 8; m is an integer of 0 to 5 and s is an integer of 0 to 29, and a and t are an integer of 1 to 500.



2-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Amended) A cell comprising an anode, an electrolyte and a cathode, wherein said electrolyte is the gel electrolyte according to claim 1.

7. (Previously Amended) An electrochromic element comprising a pair of transparent electrodes between which an electrochromic layer which develops color on reduction and a transparent ionic conductor layer exist, wherein said ionic conductor layer contains the gel electrolyte according to claim 1.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) A gel electrolyte according to claim 1, wherein said gelling agent is a compound having self-assembling characteristics.



10. (Previously Added) A gel electrolyte comprising:
a gelling agent forming a fibrous body; and
an ionically conductive material that is a salt, which is liquid at working
temperature and which is held in the fibrous body by said gelling agent,
wherein the fibrous body is associated via non-covalent intermolecular
bonding, and
wherein the gel electrolyte is chemically stable.
